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SUBJECT: DEMARCHE ON DISRUPTION OF CHISINAU-MOSCOW RAIL
LINKS

REF: STATE 181103

Classified By: A/DCM JOSIAH ROSENBLATT FOR REASONS 1.4 (b) and (d)

[1](#)1. (C) Poloff delivered reftel November 3 to Aurelia Bouchez, MFA DAS-equivalent for Russia, Central Asia, and the Caucasus. Bouchez commented that the suspension of the Chisinau rail link came as a surprise to France, which had expected Russia to avoid provocations on Transnistria in order to demonstrate the EU some good will in advance of the EU/Russia Summit.

[1](#)2. (C) MFA Secretary General Philippe Faure, she said, will meet with Ukranian Deputy FM Volodymyr Ogryzko November 9 and will likely bring up the closure of the Mogilev bridge. France has not yet decided at what level it will discuss the issue with Moscow, but is inclined to encourage the EU to take the lead.

[1](#)3. (C) In light of recent developments and with no clear political settlement in reach, Bouchez asked whether the U.S. was still supporting an expansion (using an EU policing component) of current Joint Peacekeeping Forces (JPF).

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